

**Document Code No.: ACO-8-1-36-EO**

**Title:** Delegation of Authority During Absence of the Executive and Line of Succession

**Keywords:** Executive, Succession

**Sponsoring Agency:** King County Executive Office



**King County**

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An Executive Order superseding Executive Order ACO 8-1-35 (EO) dated December 17, 2019, delegating authority when the Executive is absent and designating a line of succession in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the County Executive.

**WHEREAS**, I, Dow Constantine, am the duly elected King County Executive, having assumed said position on November 24, 2009, and

**WHEREAS**, from time to time the King County Executive may be absent from King County or otherwise unavailable to sign official documents or take other official actions; and

**WHEREAS**, it will be necessary during those occasions for various official documents and ordinances to be signed to carry on King County's business and for various orders and directions to be given on behalf of the Executive; and

**WHEREAS**, the King County Executive may be unavailable to direct implementation of the King County Emergency Services Operations Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to satisfy Federal and Washington State legal requirements that the Emergency Services Operations Plan indicate the name of the individuals responsible for implementing the Plan during periods of natural or war-caused disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, in the event of an emergency, King County Code Section 12.52.030 delineates the emergency powers of the King County Executive after the Executive has formally proclaimed in writing the existence of an emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 8, Section 850, of the King County Charter provides for the delegation of Executive powers and duties, except in the veto power, to be assumed and carried out in the Executive's absence; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 6, Section 680.10, of the King County Charter requires the Executive to designate an interim official in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the County Executive;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dow Constantine, King County Executive, do hereby order and direct that the following individuals are designated to act on my behalf in my absence and delegate to each my powers and duties, except the veto power, to be assumed and carried out by:

(1) Chief of Staff: April Putney

(2) Chief Operating Officer/Director of Performance, Strategy and Budget: Dwight Dively

(3) Chief People Officer: Whitney Abrams

(4) Chief Legal Counsel: Gina Topp


(5) Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer: Anita Whitfield

- (6) Director of Community and Human Services: Leo Flor
- (7) Deputy Chief of Staff: Shannon Braddock
- (8) Chief Performance Officer: Gary Kurihara
- (9) Director of Communications: Alex Fryer
- (10) Director of Customer Service: Natasha Jones
- (11) Director of Federal and Regional Relations: Jennifer Huston
- (12) Director of State Relations: Celia Jackson
- (13) Director of External Relations: Calli Knight
- (14) Director of Council Relations: Karan Gill

**FURTHERMORE**, I officially designate the following individuals to serve as interim County Executive in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the County Executive:

- (1) Chief of Staff: April Putney
- (2) Chief Operating Officer/Director of Performance, Strategy and Budget: Dwight Dively
- (3) County Administrative Officer: Caroline Whalen
- (4) Chief Legal Counsel: Gina Topp
- (5) Chief People Officer: Whitney Abrams
- (6) Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer: Anita Whitfield

Dated and effective this 21 day of JANUARY 2021



Dow Constantine  
King County Executive

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Norm Alberg", is written over a solid horizontal line.

Norm Alberg  
Director, Records and Licensing Services Division, Department of Executive Services

